

NOTE: The President's remarks were recorded at approximately 10:45 a.m. on August 28 at the Edgartown Elementary School in Martha's Vineyard, MA, for later broadcast. The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on August 31. These remarks were also made available on the White House Press Office Radio Actuality Line.

**Statement on Announcement of the  
Bosnia-Herzegovina National Day**  
*September 1, 1999*

Today the Joint Presidents of Bosnia-Herzegovina announced that the national day of their country will henceforth be celebrated on November 21, the anniversary of the Dayton peace accords of 1995. In so doing, the leaders of every ethnic community in Bosnia-Herzegovina have made clear that Dayton marked not merely the end of a war but the beginning of a new country and a blueprint for its future. I am pleased that the date November 21 will be honored as a symbol of multi-ethnic democracy and solidarity between the people of the United States and the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

**Statement on the Cease-Fire  
Agreement in the Democratic  
Republic of the Congo**  
*September 1, 1999*

I welcome the signing of a cease-fire agreement by founding members of the Rally for Congolese Democracy (RCD) yesterday in Lusaka. Their signature brings into force the Lusaka accord, signed by six African Heads of State on July 10th and aimed at ending the war in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In a region that has seen terrible violence, there is now a chance for a genuine and just peace. I urge all parties to implement and adhere to the agreement and to act in good faith to enable the citizens of the Congo and neighboring states to pursue their lives in peace, prosperity, and democracy.

I especially congratulate the leaders of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), Rwanda, and Uganda for working together to secure RCD signature of the

Lusaka accord. This agreement is the result of the vision, dedication, and courage of regional nations and their leaders. It is a crucial step in ending one of the continent's most dangerous wars. The same courage and commitment are now required to see the accord fully implemented.

The continuing effort to build an enduring peace deserves America's support. We will work closely with all parties to realize the goals of the Lusaka accord: to achieve a broadbased, democratic, and open political process in the Congo and to address the security concerns of neighboring states. I hope the agreement will help end the cycle of violence in the region and promote stability and reconstruction across central Africa.

**Statement on the Release of the  
"Futurework" Report**  
*September 1, 1999*

The "Futurework" report, released today by the Department of Labor, underscores the need for an even stronger commitment to education and training to help workers thrive in an economy that is changing faster than ever before. Now, more than ever, American workers must learn the new skills needed to face the challenges of the 21st century economy.

The Republican tax proposal, because it would force cuts in education and worker training of roughly 50 percent in 2009, would deny millions of Americans the chance to gain these skills. Now is not the time to short-change the future opportunities of American workers by enacting an irresponsible tax plan that fails to allow adequate investment in education and training.

**Radio Remarks on Drunk Driving**  
*September 2, 1999*

Working together, we've made enormous progress in reducing drunk driving in America. Today I'm pleased to report we're making even more. Last year the number of people killed in alcohol-related crashes hit a record low, and young people killed in alcohol-related crashes fell to the lowest rate ever

recorded. But even one child killed because of drunk driving is one too many.

Today I'm pleased to announce the Departments of Transportation and Justice will release a total of over \$47 million in grants to help communities combat drunk driving and underage drinking and increases seatbelt use. Ultimately, of course, all of us must take responsibility. So if you choose to drink, always designate a driver and always wear your seatbelt. Let's make this the safest Labor Day weekend ever.

NOTE: The President's remarks were recorded at approximately 10:40 a.m. on August 28 at the Edgartown Elementary School in Martha's Vineyard, MA, for later broadcast. The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 2. These remarks were also made available on the White House Press Office Radio Actuality Line.

### **Remarks at a Reception Honoring the First Lady in Cazenovia, New York**

*September 2, 1999*

I would like to thank the Greens for making us all feel so welcome, and I would like to thank you for—[*applause*]. I have been overwhelmed by the kindness and the hospitality of the people these last few days and by the sheer beauty of this place, everywhere we've been, and I want to thank you all for sharing that with us.

I'd also like to thank the people of New York and the people of this area for your many kindnesses to me and to Al Gore and to our families and our administration, including the electoral votes of New York in two Presidential elections.

I want to just make a couple of points. First of all, in terms of where our country is today, we are in a good place because we have tried to make decisions for 6½ years to think about what is best for America, for all Americans and for the future and not just for the moment, for those that may have the most influence. And it's worked pretty well.

In this historic part of our Nation, I think it is fair to say that if you read the history of America closely, as I have tried to do, the continuing mission of this country is to always

be working to widen the circle of opportunity, to deepen the meaning of freedom, and to strengthen the bonds of our community. This is more and more important as we grow more diverse and as we get more involved with the rest of the world.

Now, if you look at what has happened in the last 6½ years, I don't think it's a subject of much debate anymore. And I am very grateful for the efforts that I have been able to make with so many others to improve the economy and lower the crime rate and lower the welfare rolls and strengthen the role of America in the world.

But the mission of the country is never open. And Hillary just mentioned a few things. One of the things that I think about all the time is that not every community and not every section of our country has participated fully in this astonishing economic recovery, and that bothers me. It bothers me that not every child in this country is getting a world-class education. It bothers me that there are people in Washington who really don't want to use this truly historic opportunity to extend the life of the Social Security Trust Fund out beyond the life expectancy of those of us in the baby boom. Any of you here who are baby boomers, like me, I'm sure you share my concern. I am determined that, when we retire, our children will not have to support us at the expense of our grandchildren. That's what Social Security is—[*applause*].

And in a global economy, believe me, if we were to pay off the debt of this country in 15 years, for the first time since Andy Jackson was President, then the children in this audience would be the economic beneficiaries. We would have a generation of lower interest rates and higher growth and stronger economies in every place in America.

And that brings me back to why you all came here. [*Laughter*] When I met Hillary in law school, I was really afraid for her to go home to Arkansas with me, because I was afraid she would be wasting what I think is one of the greatest talents of public service I've ever known in my life. It turned out it hasn't been a waste; she's learned pretty well. [*Laughter*]